

2007 Potential Study Items

For the Government Operations Interim Committee

From HJR 14 Master Study Resolution

Election Law

- _____ **64. Certifying Ballot Information** - to study consolidation of dates relating to certification of ballot information by the Lieutenant Governor (Aagard).
- _____ **66. Early Voting** - to study early voting for the disabled in municipal elections (Aagard).
- _____ **67. Financing Legislative Races** - to study issues related to the public financing of legislative races in Utah (McCoy).
- _____ **74. President Elections** - to study enacting an agreement between states to elect the President of the United States by national popular vote (H.B. 346 - Hansen).
- _____ **80. Voter Registration and Provisional Voting** - to study permitting election day voter registration and extending provisional voting to all elections (1st Sub. H.B. 287 - Hansen).

Legal Notices and Hearings

- _____ **68. Legal Notices** - to study issues related to the posting of legal notices on the Internet (S.B. 67 - Stowell).
- _____ **71. Notice of Public Meetings Website** - to study the feasibility of creating a state-provided website for state and local governmental entities to post notices of their meetings (Stowell).
- _____ **76. Public Hearings on Water Rights** - to study amending open meetings laws to expand the current strategy session exemption for the discussion of the sale, purchase, exchange, or lease of real property to include personal property, including the purchase of water rights (Painter).

Personnel

- _____ **70. Noncompete Reimbursement** - to study the feasibility of having new employees sign a noncompete or reimbursement contract that provides that if, after being trained at state expense, they leave for another government job (i.e. state to county), either the employee or the government entity the employee joins be required to reimburse the state for training costs (Herrod).
- _____ **81. Wage Comparison** - to study and compare wages of corrections officers with those of surrounding states, including privatized prison employees (Waddoups).
- _____ **75. Public Employees Union Financial Responsibility** - to study reporting requirements for public employee unions (H.B. 430 - House BL Standing Committee).

- _____77. **Remedy for Alleged Sexual Harassment** - to study whether to amend the Utah Anti-Discrimination Act to make it clear that alleged victims of sexual harassment have the right to pursue claims which would be actionable under Utah common law (C. Walker).

Agency Duties

- _____63. **Audit of Leases Related to Revenue Bonds** - to study requiring certain contract clauses related to the financial condition of a private entity that is making lease payments pledged to pay the principal or interest on revenue bonds (H.B. 251-Hansen).
- _____65. **Constitutional Defense Council** - to study the duties of the Constitutional Defense Council (Gowans).
- _____72. **Ombudsman Consolidation** - to study consolidating the ombudsman's offices into an information center (Aagard).
- _____78. **State Planning Coordinator** - to study the powers and duties of the state planning coordinator (Gowans).

Government Services

- _____69. **Noncitizen Utilization of Public Services** - to study noncitizen use of public services using research from other states, and Utah's experience (Urquhart).
- _____79. **Veterans' Benefits and Procurement Preferences** - to study the current programs to help veterans enjoy economic self-reliance by providing them a preference program for government procurement contracts (Fife).

Policy Influence

- _____62. **Agency Influence** - to study the role the Office of Ethnic Affairs plays in influencing legislation, including links from state websites to various affiliations (Herrod).
- _____73. **Political Activities of Public Entities** - to study Title 20A, Chapter 11, Part 12, Political Activities of Public Entities Act, to determine whether the current statute adequately defines and limits public entities from influencing ballot propositions, whether increased penalties for a violation of the act should be provided, and determine whether the act adequately identifies who is responsible for enforcement of the act against violations (Stephenson).

Other items Assigned to Executive Appropriations or Management

- _____223. **Funds Consolidation** - to study and review restricted funds and accounts to determine whether to implement a revised Funds Consolidation Act.
- _____224. **Nonlapsing Authority** - to study and review all the nonlapsing authority currently in statute, and examine whether moneys should in fact lapse where currently they are nonlapsing.
- _____225. **Special Revenue Funds** - to study special revenue funds and restricted special revenue funds.
- _____227. **Legislative Session Starting Dates** - to study constitutional legislative session

starting dates, with considerations of state and federal holidays and opportunities for legislators to have time to interface with constituents.

- _____ **228. Reporting to Legislature by United States Senators from Utah** - to study granting authority to the Legislature, by joint resolution, to direct a United States Senator elected from Utah to report to the Legislature on certain issues determined by the Legislature (S.B. 202).
- _____ **229. Session Schedule** - to study issues related to a revised general session schedule.

Other Suggested Items:

- _____ **a.**
- _____ **c.**
- _____ **d.**
- _____ **e.**

Sunset Review and Repealers

For the Sunset Review items, please indicate whether or not you would like the committee to review them (yes = review; no = don't review).

- _____ **I.** Section 20A-2-107.5 allowing a **voter to designate or change political party affiliation** in order to vote in a regular primary election is repealed July 1, 2008 (see Section 63-55b-120)
- _____ **II.** Section 63B-14-101 allowing certain **bonding for the Veterans' Nursing Home in Ogden** not exceeding \$4,600,000 if federal funds are available is repealed December 31, 2008 (see Subsection 63-55b-163(5))